

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A system for automatically scanning channels of a television
2 operable for displaying a plurality of channels of a channel lineup one at a time, the
3 system comprising:

4 a television input device operable for being controlled by a viewer to
5 enable the viewer to control the television to change the channels being displayed by
6 the television, wherein the television input device is operable with the television to
7 automatically change the channels being displayed by the television such that each
8 channel in the channel lineup is displayed one at a time by the television for a
9 channel display time period.

1 2. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 each channel in the channel lineup is displayed one at a time by the
3 television for the channel display time period until the viewer controls the television
4 input device to stop the television from changing the channels.

1 3. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device is a remote television input device operable
3 for being controlled by the viewer to enable the viewer to remotely control the
4 television.

1 4. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device includes a remote control.

1 5. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device includes a wireless keyboard.

1 6. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device includes an onscreen keyboard.

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1 7. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device is operable with the television to pause the
3 television from automatically changing the channels in response to the viewer
4 controlling the television input device to pause the channel changing.

1 8. The system of claim 7 wherein:
2 the television input device is operable with the television to resume the
3 television to continue automatically changing the channels in response to the viewer
4 controlling the television input device to resume the channel changing.

1 9. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device is operable to enable the viewer to select
3 the channel display time period.

1 10. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device is operable to enable the viewer to select
3 the order in which the channels are automatically changed.

1 11. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device is operable to enable the viewer to select
3 whether program information associated with each channel is displayed by the
4 television with each displayed channel.

1 12. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device is operable to enable the viewer to select
3 a subset of the channels in the channel lineup to be automatically changed.

1 13. The system of claim 1 wherein:
2 the television input device is operable to enable the viewer to associate
3 preference settings with the viewer such that the television input device automatically

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4 changes the channels in accordance with the preference settings associated with the
5 viewer.

1 14. A method for automatically scanning channels of a television
2 operable for displaying a plurality of channels of a channel lineup one at a time using
3 a television input device, the method comprising:

4 controlling the television input device to automatically change the
5 channels being displayed by the television such that each channel in the channel
6 lineup is displayed one at a time by the television for a channel display time period
7 until the television input device is controlled by a viewer to stop the television from
8 changing the channels.

1 15. A method for automatically scanning channels of a television
2 operable for displaying a plurality of channels of a channel lineup one at a time, the
3 method comprising:

4 controlling a television input device operable for enabling a viewer to
5 automatically change the channels being displayed by the television such that each
6 channel in the channel lineup is displayed one at a time by the television for a
7 channel display time period without further action by the viewer; and

8 controlling the television input device to stop the television from
9 automatically changing the channels.

1 16. The method of claim 15 wherein:
2 the television input device is a remote television input device operable
3 for being controlled by the viewer to enable the viewer to remotely control the
4 television.

1 17. The method of claim 15 wherein:
2 the television input device includes a remote control.

1 18. The method of claim 15 wherein:

2 the television input device includes a wireless keyboard.

1 19. The method of claim 15 wherein:

2 the television input device includes an onscreen keyboard.

1 20. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

2 controlling the television input device to pause the television from
3 automatically changing the channels.

1 21. The method of claim 20 further comprising:

2 controlling the television input device to resume the television to
3 continue automatically changing the channels.

1 22. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

2 controlling the television input device to select the channel display
3 time period.

1 23. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

2 controlling the television input device to select the order in which the
3 channels are automatically changed.

1 24. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

2 controlling the television input device to select whether program
3 information associated with each channel is displayed by the television with each
4 displayed channel.

1 25. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

2 controlling the television input device to select a subset of the channels
3 in the channel lineup to be automatically changed.

1 26. The method of claim 15 further comprising:

- 2 controlling the television input device to associate preference settings
- 3 with the viewer such that the channels are automatically changed in accordance with
- 4 the preference settings associated with the viewer.

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